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Dusty Air and Ill Health. By ROBERT HESSLER, M.D. Indianapolis: Printed privately, 1912. 8vo, pp. v+352.

The fundamental premise underlying this work is that ill-health (not disease) is one of the great causes of misery and poverty. Many of the more common forms of ill-health such as colds, catarrh, dyspepsia, nervous prostration, and cardio-vascular affections are attributed by the author to dust and to impure air. Cases of patients who have been under the author's care, and whose experiences bear out his general assumptions, supply him with the major portion of his subject-matter. The book is rather casual and popular in manner. It partakes somewhat of the nature of a family medical adviser. But perhaps such a treatment of the subject as the author has here presented may help in arousing public opinion in favor of a scientific attempt to remedy the admitted evils of dust and smoke.

Fire Waste. By POWELL EVANS. Philadelphia: Merchant & Evans, 1912. 8vo, pp. 180. 25 cents.

This pamphlet consists of a timely and valuable collection of reports, addresses, letters, and descriptive articles resulting from a five-year crusade against fire waste and looking toward the possibility of fire control in the United States. Its purpose is to show the extensive annual destruction of life and property by fire—fully two-thirds of which is traceable to easily preventable causes, to describe the incipient organization of public and private agencies for correction and prevention, to indicate typical methods employed—especially those of Pennsylvania and the city of Philadelphia, and to enter a plea for a national movement in behalf of more unified and better organized efforts for fire prevention and protection. Owing to the manner of the treatment, there is much confusing overlapping and repetition. A good summary would greatly enhance the usefulness of the book.

Essentials of Socialism. By IRA B. CROSS. New York: Macmillan, 1912. 8vo, pp. x+152. \$1.00.

For one who is interested in obtaining a fair statement of what is comprised in present-day socialism this book will be of considerable value. While the author does not in any way deal with historical socialism, he does give a clear and concise account of the socialistic case against capitalistic society, of its peculiar tenets for the amelioration of these conditions, the theory on which its beliefs are based, and a criticism of that theory. None of these subjects are considered in great detail but the main facts are given, and for anyone who wishes to extend his investigation the careful bibliography of American and English writers which is appended will be of great assistance.